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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

AMENDMENT "B" ACCOMPANYING APPEAL BRIEF

APPLICANTS: Wolfgang Thiel CONFIRMATION NO.: 1989
SERIAL NO.: 09/527,138 GROUP ART UNIT: 3629
FILED: March 16, 2000 EXAMINER: R. S. Woo
TITLE: "METHOD AND ARRANGEMENT FOR ENTERING
CONTENTS OF A FRANKING IMPRINT INTO A POSTAGE
METER MACHINE"

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

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GROUP 3600

S I R:

Applicants herewith amend the application as follows.

IN THE CLAIMS

Claim 1 has been amended as follows:

1. (Twice amended) A method for entering contents of a franking imprint into a postage meter machine, said postage meter machine having an electronic, digitally operating printer and said contents being employed for printing said franking imprint with said printer, said method comprising the steps of:

storing a set of data in a non-volatile, non-removable memory of said postage meter machine by permanently programming said set of data at a manufacturing location, said data being selected from the group consisting of different country-specific data and different carrier-specific data;

installing a data communication interface in said postage meter machine; and configuring said franking imprint of said postage meter machine prior to use at a use location remote from said manufacturing location for at least one of a selected carrier and a selected country, by communicating with said postage meter machine via said interface, to select at least one of said permanently programmed carrier-specific data and country-specific from said non-removable memory data.